



Mark C. Curran Jr. Sheriff

Raymond J. Rose Undersheriff

MEDIA RELEASE

Lake County Sheriff's Office • 25 South Martin Luther King, Jr., Avenue • Waukegan, Illinois 60085

For Immediate Release

Date: March 22, 2014
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Barricaded Subject

On March 21, 2014 at approximately 5:30 pm the Lake County Sheriff's Office responded to a suspicious person locked inside a bathroom stall at the BP gas station/McDonalds located at 39105 Rt 41 in Wadsworth.

When deputies arrived they attempted to make contact with Justin M. Koch, 24, of the 200 Block of S. River Blvd in Plymouth, Wisconsin. Koch did not respond. Deputies were able to partially kick open a panel on the stall door and could see Koch was blocking the door, slouched over and unresponsive. Deputies continued to force their way into the stall. Koch began closing the door

and the panel. Three bangs rang out from within the bathroom stall and there was a flash of light near the opening in the door. Deputies evacuated the gas station and McDonalds.

The Tactical Response Team (TRT) and negotiators arrived at the scene. Negotiators convinced Koch to exit the bathroom stall and he was arrested without incident.

Koch told investigators he ignited a firework inside the stall and threw it at the deputies because he was scared.

Koch was charged with Aggravated Battery to a police officer (Class 2 Felony), Aggravated Assault (Class A Misdemeanor), and Disorderly Conduct (Class C Misdemeanor).

Koch will appear in bond court today.

End of Release.